

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 2, 6 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 3, 7, 13 and 19 have been rewritten in independent form, the remaining claims have been amended accordingly and a new abstract has been submitted in accordance with the rules.

Although claims 3, 7, 13 and 19 have been deemed to include allowable subject matter, claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 18 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Cooper (US 5,499,246) and Farjh et al. (US 5,341,401; hereafter "Farjh) and claims 17 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper, Farjh and Kay et al. (U.S. 5,299,198; hereafter "Kay"). Applicants have rewritten claims 3, 7, 13 and 19 in independent form, cancelled the rejected independent claims and amended the remaining claims to place the application in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the pending claims are believed to be in form for allowance, and a notice indicating such is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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